

Sportsball!

Episode 3

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What Had Happened Was...?

The 5 Secret Twitter Accounts of 76ers President Brian Colangelo ([Latest News](#))

Do You Even Nerd/Geek?

Questions from Geek Battle

1. X-Files Tag Lines
2. Bill Watterson
3. Size of Internet vs World Wide Web
4. Duct tape usage according to California building codes

Say What?!?!?

Alondo

- Lot of technology in sports. Most prevalent usage of computers in sports is tracking the numbers and producing insightful statistics. Moneyball - looking at data in numerous ways - produce much better evaluations of players.
- 1996 - Fox announced "On January 20th, you will witness the biggest technological breakthrough in the history of sports." - Both wrong and right

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- FoxTrax - puck that would have a glowing blue aura around it, then it would emit a red streak behind it when struck with force. Supposed to make the “technopuck” easier to track in the days of SD television.
 - LED lights - flashed 30/second (imperceptible to human eyes) - seen by cameras - synchronized to same speed. When puck hit hard, frequency is naturally adjusted - color changed when picked up by camera. Met with derision and horror by hockey fans. Lasted 2 years. 2012 Huffington Post article called it “the worst sports broadcasting innovation of our time.”
 - The creators of the FoxTrax system - new company - SportsVision. Debuted their “First and Ten” system in 1998 during a Bengals - Ravens game on ESPN.
 - Much more involved - fields are slightly sloped - rainwater drains off. 3D model of every NFL field. Every camera has sensor - knows location, tilt, pan, zoom. Recalculated 30x/second. Technician knows where to “paint” line on field in the video feed.
 - How does it look obscured by players and the ball? Only colors that correlate to the field are turned yellow - particular greens/browns. All other colors are left alone (uniforms, cleats, ball, skin) - 60x/second.
 - Used to take a truck, four-man crew, five racks equipment - now, one technician with 1 or 2 computers. Previously cost \$25-30,000/game. Much less now.
 - Evolved to change color of line to red on 4th down - second blue line - line of scrimmage - add'l lines for red zone, field goal kicker range, or all field and boundary lines projected during extreme weather like a blizzard.
 - Lots of technology used in all kinds of sports - in/out indicator and speed tracker in tennis, touch pads in swimming, driver and speed tracking in NASCAR, boat identification in the America’s Cup, golf ball tracking shots on PGA tour, pitch speed/spin/strike zone placement in baseball - World Cup starts June 14, will continue using Goal Tracking technology - identifies if

whole ball passes under the crossbar and by two goalposts. Uses microchip in ball and sensors on goal.

Bevan

- [Personalizing the Boston Marathon](#)
 - For their 30th anniversary as sponsor of the Boston Marathon, adidas wanted to celebrate the runners with a digital experience
 - Enlisted the help of Grow, a local (Coastal Virginia) ad agency to assist with this endeavor
 - 30,000 personalized films for each of the 30,000 runners in the marathon, all delivered within hours of the end of the race
 - Grow set up a crew of 18 people (which included a film crew, an editing war room and on the ground support) with eight cameras along the course. Four cameras captured b-roll while the other four captured personalized footage.
 - Each personalized video featured footage of the runner, isolated based on his or her race data, along with personalized motion graphics and title cards that featured the runner's starting group, split times, and completion stats

Jennifer

Have you ever wondered about the role technology plays in the Olympic Games? I started thinking about the many times I have watched the sport of swimming specifically and even with the new marathon races that came about in 2008 wondered how technology underwater has impacted this particular extremely popular sport-even down to the swimsuits they wear and the depths of the swimming pools in which they compete...

<https://www.siliconrepublic.com/trending/rio-2016-olympic-games>

- Athletes are filmed underwater and their strokes and movements are analyzed for improvements
- Competitors watch each other and learn from the top performing swimmers

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- In marathon swimming, armbands on the swimmers report each swimmers' stats constantly
 - Companies analyze swimmers' bodies using 3D models to invent the best swimwear that has proven to make swimmers more able to perform better and break records-Speedo is just one company that has worked tirelessly to analyze superhero gear and the human body to make record breaking and sometimes controversial swimwear!!!
 - Swimmers are partnered with sports scientists who use technology to test their vitals to measure how the athletes are affected and how they can improve. Everything Michael Phelps does is perfected by science and technology whether it be how many strokes he takes to what he eats every day to help him stay on a track of improvement. Swimmers have access to constant digital feedback every time they practice and compete to find the best match in their performance field.
 - Even details of the pool is another changing entity in Olympic swimming. The Beijing Olympic pool was three meters deep rather than two in order to lessen resistance. Olympic pools today have 10 lanes with 2 empty outside lanes in order to serve as buffers and stop ricocheting waves. Plastic buoys are designed specifically to direct water down and further prevent waves from affecting other swimmers unlike those of the past. These changes have come about from watching hours and hours of videos geared towards perfecting the environment so swimmers could perfect their sport and the games would be on a more level playing field.
 - What is your opinion? Some say it takes away from the original raw nature of the Olympics and pushes us further away from the original idea that the best athlete would persevere through all obstacles in the games. Others say technology exists in every aspect of our lives, so why would we not adapt the games around our societal norms? By the way...you can get a state of the art Speedo swimsuit for a little under 500 dollars!

Geek Out

[Arrested Development](#)

[Handmaid's Tale](#)

Additional References and Information

[Fox Announcement for FoxTrax Technology](#)

[FoxTrax Glowing Puck Footage](#)

[The FoxTrax experiment](#)

[Worst Sports Tech in History](#)

[How Does the Magic Yellow First-Down Line Work?](#)

[How World Cup Goal Line Technology Works](#)

[France vs Honduras Goal by Karim Benzema](#)

Music

Intro and Outro music - Brasilia by Michael Glass

[See What Had Happened Was - Kutt Calhoun](#)

[Sharing is Caring \(Twitter\) - Dan Bull](#)

[Sportsball - Bionic Pig](#)

[Epic Rap Battle: Nerd vs Geek - Rhett & Link](#)